

Toronto Conservatory of Music

First  
Chamber Music Concert

1944-45 SERIES

PARLOW STRING QUARTET

KATHLEEN PARLOW - - - - First Violin  
SAMUEL HERSENHOREN - - Second Violin  
ROBERT WARBURTON - - - - Viola  
ISAAC MAMOTT - - - - - 'Cello

CONSERVATORY CONCERT HALL

Wednesday, November 1st, 1944, at Five O'Clock



## PROGRAMME NOTES

### Quartet in D major, "The Lark" ..... Haydn

It would seem particularly fitting to open a chamber music series with Haydn — he who established the string quartet as a distinctive instrument and showed the type of music best suited to it. Gathering together the various experimental threads of his contemporaries, he was the first to weave them into a fabric of beautiful texture. This D major quartet, entitled "The Lark" (because of the opening phrase given to the first violin), is No. 5 of a set of six which marks the beginning of his finest period. Haydn's own words best express the mood of the first, third and last movements: "When I think of the Divine Being, my heart is so full of joy that the notes fly off as from a spindle, and as I have a cheerful heart He will pardon me if I serve Him cheerfully."

The slow movement is in sharp contrast — a lyric song which, poignantly soaring to idyllic heights, ushers in that glorious procession of Haydn slow movements, each one more beautiful than the last. The final movement is the famous *moto perpetuo* known as the Hornpipe.

### Quartet in A minor ..... Kreisler

To those of us who have admired Fritz Kreisler for many years as a great violinist, this quartet comes as a precious and fascinating autobiography — surely the best kind a musician could write. Not only has he won our hearts as an unrivalled performer but as the genial composer without whose charming and characteristic pieces the modern violinist's programmes would be infinitely less interesting.

It is the epitome of Kreisler's style, a warm, passionate flow of melody, Viennese gaiety, with a wistful sadness never far away, and all the piquant little touches that make his playing so personal and delightful.

The quartet opens with a passage for solo 'cello, rather in the Strauss manner. After this free introduction (in which other instruments join), the *Allegro moderato* follows, full of colour and fantasy with a remarkable feeling for true quartet writing and a just perception of the possibilities of the four instruments.

The Scherzo is a particularly clever and witty bit of writing with short cadenzas for each player in the middle section. The Romanze is well named, with its passionate song tinged with melancholy. Kreisler has published this separately as a violin solo with piano accompaniment. The last movement starts out with a gay little bit of humour (marked "Waggishly"), and then swings into a Czech polka, which lilting rhythm finally gives place to a return of the first movement's principal theme, bringing the whole work to a quiet and pensive close.



# Programme

## GOD SAVE THE KING

Quartet in D major, Op. 64, No. 5 ("The Lark") ..... Haydn

Allegro moderato

Adagio cantabile

Minuetto allegretto

Finale vivace

Quartet in A minor ..... Kreisler

Fantasie

Scherzo

Introduction and Romance

Finale

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## NEXT CONCERT

The second concert in the series will be held on Wednesday, November 15th.

Madame Lubka Kolessa, pianist, will be the artist.



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